



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5 77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO. IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

SEP 0 8 2000

SE-5J

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT

Mr. Don Kieffer Illinois St. Clair Management 160 East Illinois Chicago, Illinois 60611

Re: 160 East Illinois

Dear Mr. Kieffer:

As you may be aware, U.S. EPA is investigating the disposal of radioactive material from the Lindsay Light and Chemical Company (Lindsay Light) thorium mantle manufacturing plant at 316 E. Illinois. Part of this investigation includes conducting radiological surveys of certain properties in the area. To date, approximately 40,000 tons of thorium- impacted soils have been excavated in the Streeterville area and is still ongoing. Enclosed are copies of U.S. EPA's Lindsay Light Fact Sheets which explain the detailed history of Lindsay Light and cleanup activities conducted.

In summary, from 1905 until approximately 1932, Lindsay Light refined thorium containing ores and manufactured incandescent mantles for residential and commercial building lights at 316 E. Illinois. The gas mantle manufacturing involved dipping gauze mantle bags into solutions containing radioactive thorium. This former manufacturing site that is bounded by Columbus, Grand, McClurg Court, and Illinois is known as the Lindsay Light II site. (It is called Lindsay Light II because the original facility and main offices were located at 161 East Grand.) Presently, Kerr-McGee Chemical L.L.C., River East L.L.C. and Grand Pier L.L.C. are completing removal actions at the Lindsay Light II site pursuant to a U.S, EPA administrative order issued under the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act ("CERCLA" or more commonly known as "Superfund").

U.S. EPA believes it is possible that radioactive materials from the Lindsay Light operations may have been placed onto your property. Asphalt and concrete effectively shield the gamma radiation from this material, if the asphalt and concrete are removed during development activities there may be a potential threat to human health and the environment. We are aware

that consultants conducted environmental and/or radiological assessments at your building and we are requesting that you provide copies of any reports pertaining to geotechnical borings, historical use, and environmental/radiological investigations at this property.

This request is authorized by Section 104(e) of CERCLA which provides that U.S. EPA may require any person, who may have information relevant to the identification or nature of hazardous substances or the extent of release of hazardous substances, to furnish such information or documents. Please provide this information and documents by September 22, 2000.

Please contact either myself at (312) 886-3601 or Fred Micke, On-Scene Coordinator at (312) 886-5123 or Larry Jensen, Health Physicist, if there is additional information we can provide to you. Please direct legal matters to Mary Fulghum, Associate Regional Counsel, at (312) 886-4683.

Sincerely,

Verneta Simon.

On-Scene Coordinator

Enclosures:

- 1. Fact Sheet dated April 2000
- 2. Fact Sheet dated May 2000
- 3. Fact Sheet dated June 2000

bcc: Mary Fulghum, C-14J, w/o enclosures Larry Jensen, SE-5J, w/o enclosures

Derrick Kimbrough, SE-5J, w/o enclosures

Fred Micke, SE-5J, w/o enclosures

Linda Nachowicz, SE-5J, w/o enclosures Debbie Regel, SE-5J, w/o enclosures